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Extension Service loses leader

LESTER A. SCHLUP, Chief, Division of Extension Information

■ "Tomorrow is here." wrote Assistant Director Reuben Brigham in last month's *Extension Service Review*; and now that it is here we miss the advice and help of the founder and first editor who more than any other helped to set the mold for this magazine and whose interest in the publication never flagged. He died on December 6, 1946; but the policies he set up, the ideals and hopes he had for an extension house organ which would give a "faithful and vivid record of extension progress and development" will carry on in his tradition.

In traveling through the country Reuben Brigham always found time to visit some county agent's office, to talk with farm men and women and boys and girls about their hopes and their problems. These were the folks for whom he was working and who in his eyes judged the value of extension work. He wanted to keep close to them.

He lived in the small community of Ashton, Md., 25 miles from his office in the Department of Agriculture building; but the advantages of belonging to a rural community and taking part in civic affairs there more than compensated for the long daily drive, often through snow and rain. He rests at last from his ceaseless activity, in the rose garden of his home there. His many friends in every part of the country are contributing living plants and a sundial to make this garden a memorial to him. Mrs. Brigham, well known to extension workers everywhere, and the youngest son, Arthur, now a student at the University of Maryland, are keeping the country home open and welcome Reuben's friends.

"Nothing so soon wrecks a movement as entrenched traditional be-



liefs and prejudice based on opinion rather than fact," he wrote editorially in July 1930; and in this he firmly believed. He loved to try out new ideas and methods, and he encouraged this among the people who worked with him.

"The true function of the extension worker," said Mr. Brigham again and again, "is to help the individual or the group to do what needs to be done," and "progress must be the keynote of extension activity and education—progress in aiding people to think and to act for themselves."

Farm youth were particularly the interest of Reuben Brigham from the time he took his first extension job as 4-H Club leader in Maryland through the last few months of his activity toward establishing an effective rural youth program which he discussed in his last article. His eldest son served in the South Pacific, his second son in the European thea-

ter, and his only daughter went overseas as an Army nurse. The hopes and problems of youth lay heavy on his mind and heart during the war years.

With the end of the war, helping rural youth with the adjustments necessary in the postwar world was uppermost in his mind.

Reuben Brigham was born in Marlboro, Mass., in 1887, but spent much of his boyhood in foreign countries, including Germany and Japan, where his father taught agriculture. These early experiences proved their value in his understanding of world issues inherent in the Second World War. He graduated from the University of Maryland and soon after returned as secretary to the president of the university and later became Maryland's 4-H Club leader. He came to the Department of Agriculture in 1917 to take charge of producing visual and editorial materials for the use of extension workers. In the early days of AAA he was detailed to that organization where he developed a regional contact division which was a model of public relations organization for many depression and wartime agencies.

He returned to the Extension Service in 1937 as Assistant Director to help develop a correlated program including the older and newer agencies.

The success of his work in that capacity is attested by the many letters received by Director Wilson at the time of Mr. Brigham's death. Director Brokaw, of Nebraska, wrote: "Mr. Brigham meant a great deal to extension directors . . . he guided us across some very rough spots." Director P. O. Davis, of Alabama, wrote: "To me he was a very sincere, able, and constructive extension worker; a real veteran in the field of extension work based upon scientific truth for practical people where they live and work."

Increase contacts with young people

Advises subcommittee on rural youth in report to Committee on Extension Organization and Policy at December meeting of Land-Grant College Association.

P. E. MILLER, Director of Minnesota Extension Service and Chairman of Subcommittee on Rural Youth

■ For several years extension people have been giving more attention to specific programs of interest to older youth. The Committee on Extension Organization and Policy has recognized the importance of this work through a standing Subcommittee on Rural Youth. The reports of this subcommittee have done much to keep rural youth work before extension people and have offered many helpful suggestions for the further development of this work. This year the committee, with the cooperation of the Department Extension Service and State directors, has made a thorough survey of the status of rural youth work in the several States. The results of this survey were briefly summarized by the late Assistant Director Reuben Brigham in the January Extension Service Review.

Based upon returns from every State and the Territories of Hawaii and Puerto Rico, the committee prepared its 1946 report and has made some rather definite recommendations. At the same time, the committee recognizes that one of the strong features of all extension work is the manner in which the several States have always adapted programs to fit their special needs; and it is expected that the recommendations made in regard to rural youth work will be interpreted in the light of conditions that prevail in each of the States. These recommendations deal with patterns of organization and suggestions in regard to important subject-matter areas of special interest to this age group.

Believing so firmly in the importance of older youth in all extension activities, the committee has recommended that all States emphasize an enlarged program to provide older youth in all counties with the opportunity to benefit from the Extension

Service program. They have recognized the trend in so many States toward county group organizations and have suggested as a desirable goal one such group in each agricultural county in the United States. This would mean much to the future leadership in all rural communities.

Although older youth work is an activity in which all members of the extension staff have a definite part, it is believed from the experience at hand that full-time staff workers to assist extension personnel, both in State and county offices, in working with older youth to obtain their objectives, is a desirable objective.

Administered With 4-H Clubs

As so many States have placed the administrative responsibility for older youth work in a youth department along with 4-H Club work and under a single head, it is suggested that serious consideration be given this type of administrative organization. At the same time the committee recognizes that rural youth work should have the full support of all staff people, including 4-H Club, home demonstration, county agents, and specialists. To further emphasize that older youth work is an all-extension activity, a State coordinating committee is again recommended as has been done in previous reports of the subcommittees. The committee also repeats the suggestion made in the 1945 report that in the counties the older youth work should be an integral part of county extension program planning and a special committee of outstanding rural young people should be appointed to work with agents in the development of a youth program.

There has been much discussion concerning State and national federation. The committee recommends

that such federation be left to the young people themselves for final determination and that until local groups are more numerous in States now having them, this matter is not of too immediate concern. There is an expressed need for a uniform name for extension older youth work. It is recommended that this question be submitted to the young people themselves and that all rural youth groups be asked to consider this matter between now and July 1, 1947, that out of their thinking it can be expected that a final conclusion can be reached during 1948.

Age Limits Left to Group

In a similar manner the committee believes that the matter of age limitation should be left entirely to the groups themselves. Local conditions will determine suitable age limitations in a much more satisfactory manner than can be done through any attempt to set uniform age requirements in an over-all way.

In helping older rural youth with their individual problems with the types of assistance that Extension is well qualified to give, there is general agreement that extension people should give more time and effort to older youth along the following lines: (1) aids to becoming established farmers, and particularly to father-son partnerships; (2) the sound use of credit in financing the farm business; (3) farm and home planning for young married couples; (4) ownership projects for young women; (5) preparation for good marriage relationships; and (6) community service programs that help secure needed services and facilities for youth and rural people generally. In emphasizing these program objectives, the committee is merely endorsing much worth-while experience that many States have had in working with older youth, both as individuals and as groups. The import of their recommendations is that increasing emphasis be placed on these activities.

The committee made two recommendations concerning more assistance to the States in carrying on rural youth work. The first of these was the recognition of a need for regional conferences of workers and supervisors who are responsible for older



youth work, and it was recommended that the Extension Service of the Department initiate such conferences to be held during 1947 in all four extension regions. The second recommendation recognized an expressed desire on the part of all States for more assistance from the Department Extension Service in the conduct of rural youth work. They asked that the Department Extension Service be responsible for keeping all States informed on methods, techniques, accomplishments, and other pertinent matters pertaining to this program through systematic releases, and that the department specialists be asked to prepare subject matter to fit the needs of older youth and younger married folk. They also recommend that a special worker or workers in rural youth attached to the Department Extension Service would be highly desirable, as soon as it is possible to add workers in this field.

Although the committee devoted its report largely to questions of organization and work within the Extension Service with older young people, the committee members recognized Extension's responsibility to cooperate with all groups interested in the welfare of rural young people.

These include the churches, schools, farm organizations, as well as other associations that have youth pro-

grams. There should be a clear understanding and close cooperation with all such organizations to avoid confusion, misunderstanding, and duplication of effort. It is only where the need exists and large numbers of older youth are not being reached by existing organizations that have similar objectives with those of Extension that groups will be organized. The principle of having the young people decide for themselves on matters of organization will keep the program on a sound basis.

In its conclusion the report states: "The committee believes it has expressed the viewpoint of the States in recognizing the young people in the age group commonly referred to as rural youth as one of the most important groups in our rural communities. The extension contacts with them should be greatly increased. From them will come the farmers and homemakers of tomorrow to fill the vacancies in the ranks of operative farmers and farm homemakers. From them will come many of the leaders in all activities pertaining to rural farm welfare. The relations we, as extension workers, have with them now, while their future plans are being made and their attitudes formed, will in a large measure determine the effectiveness of much of our extension work in future years."

Negro youth organize Alabama 4-H council

More than 140 Negro boys and girls and their local leaders met at Tuskegee Institute July 29-August 3 to organize a State 4-H Club council. After the election of officers and adoption of a constitution, the major job before these young folks was the finding of a way to insure their club calves.

About 40 percent of the members present then owned club calves which they are feeding for the April 1947 show. Adding the calves owned by other club members, around 300 calves are being prepared for the 3 shows in Tuskegee, Demopolis, and Montgomery. More than 100 others plan to buy and feed calves for the show.

When the young folks studied the figures on the number of animals exhibited during the past 2 years and the number that died each year, they began planning a cooperative for insuring these calves. A committee elected by the State 4-H Club council is to manage the cooperative.

To let other club members throughout the State know what they are doing, the officers of the council prepared a radio script which was broadcast the week following the organization meeting.

"It is the hope of this meeting," writes Louis Jones, council reporter, "that the State-wide 4-H Club programs planned will stimulate and maintain interest, raise standards of work, and contribute to the all-round development of rural young people."

Camp Daniels

Several hundred acres of land has been acquired for a Negro 4-H camp on the Santee-Cooper Lake near Ellore, S. C.

Recently 108 Negro 4-H boys from 27 counties went there for a day with their Negro agents and set out 10,000 trees. The State Forestry Service and County Rangers cooperated with Extension in making this event possible.

It is to be known as "Camp Daniels" in memory of the late Harry E. Daniels, for many years the Negro leader of extension work among colored people in South Carolina.

Handicrafts from the Smokies to the Gulf

■ Flickering lights played on the faces of the extension women sitting near the huge stone fireplace in the log craftshouse—the main building of the Penland School of Handicrafts at Penland, N. C. On the last evening of their Extension Home Industries Short Course early in June these 20 or more women were telling of their plans to carry what they had learned at this 3-week course back to other agents and rural women in their own States.

To this beautiful spot high in the mountains of North Carolina had come extension agents and specialists from eight Southeastern States and two men from China, each intent on learning as much as possible of the crafts being taught there.

Pupils chose the courses they wished to take, which included weaving, metal handicrafts, hooked and braided rugs, pottery, upholstery, textile painting, spatter painting, refinishing furniture, basketry, woodwork, and chair seating. The more than 300 ar-

ticles made during the course were proudly taken back home to show others what could be made with hands. Shining brightly in the sun as pictures were taken of an exhibit were the copper, brass, and aluminum trays and bowls and the silver jewelry which they had made in the metal shop. Other articles, such as rugs, baskets, and woven scarves and towels, showed that they had made good choice of color and design.

After the exhibits had been shown and farewells said, the enthusiastic agents eagerly started their homeward journey.

Since returning to their counties from Penland, the four county home demonstration agents from Alabama—Mrs. Lillie Alexander, Irby Barrett, Ruth Carlson, and Mona Whatley—have shown rural women how to make the articles which they had learned to make at the extension short course.

Not only have these agents taught women in their own counties these

crafts, but at a short course planned and arranged by Extension Director P. O. Davis and Levice Ellis, clothing and handicrafts specialist in Alabama, these same agents instructed 34 other county home demonstration agents. This 1 week's short course, held in September at the University, included courses in leather craft, glass etching, textile painting, spatter painting, candle molding, making of woolen animals, metal crafts, and rug making. Open house was held the last day, and many visitors enjoyed the attractive display of articles made during the week by the agents.

Planning Early for Christmas

As an example of what Alabama women have been doing, stories and pictures have come from Ruth Carlson, home demonstration agent of Russell County. Women there began getting ready for Christmas as early as June. Some designed patterns, gathered burlap bags, and collected, washed, and cut old woolen materials for making rugs, chair seats, or pillow covers. Others have stenciled on cloth and paper or done spatter painting for future gift making, and still others have been doing knitting and crocheting.

The Extension Home Industries Short Course at Penland, planned many months ahead by Lucy Morgan, director of the Penland School of Handicrafts, and Reba Adams, Federal extension specialist in home industries, was held during the height of the blooming of laurel and other spring flowers the last of May and the first of June.

Those attending this short course included Mrs. Lillie M. Alexander, Irby Barrett, Ruth Carlson, and Mona Whatley, from Alabama; Mrs. Anne Harper and Mary Anne Harper, and Clara Kuhnert, Arkansas; Mrs. Fannie Mae Griner, Georgia; Mary Agnes Gordon, Mississippi; Pauline Gordon, Ruby Scholz, Maude Searcy, Josephine Johnston, and Juanita Rush, North Carolina; Alice Wheatley and Mrs. Rose Cook, Texas; Ruth Jamison and Mabel Massey, Virginia; Violet Reed, West Virginia; and Li-Chien Tsing and Hsiao-Tsong Shih, extension trainees from China.

Instructors were Mary Thomas,

Hooked rugs for Christmas giving were made by Mrs. Ralph Forbes, handicraft leader of the Pittsview, Ala., home demonstration club. She used strips cut from used woolen clothing and blankets for the nap of the rug. Ordinary burlap, which covers so many farm necessities, was used as the base.





Home demonstration agents who taught at the school in Auburn, Ala., were (left to right) Mona Whatley, Mobile County; Mrs. Lillie Maude Alexander, Madison County; Ruth Carlson, Russell County; and Irby Barrett, Jefferson County.

New York, N. Y.; Helen Juhas, Connecticut; Ethel Sanford, Greensboro, N. C.; Ruth Harris, Knoxville, Tenn.; Ruby Scholz and Pauline Gordon, Raleigh, N. C.; Mrs. Carl Johnson, Penland, N. C.; Mrs. Lorenza Baldwin, Jacksonville, Fla.; and Reba Adams,

Federal Extension Service.

No doubt agents from other States who participated in the short course at Penland have also been busy showing others how to make practical and beautiful articles for their own homes or for gifts to friends.

Making the recommendation possible

W. A. RUFFIN, Extension Entomologist, Alabama

■ It is not enough for an extension worker to give farmers recommendations for the solution of their problems; he must follow through and make sure that the materials needed are available. This was brought home to me recently in our fight against the "peanut worms."

The velvetbean caterpillar is the most destructive pest that attacks peanuts in the Southeast. For some reason this insect had not caused much trouble until 1939. The pest was not noticed until late in the growing season. It was too late to apply control measures. That year it destroyed approximately 2 million dollars worth

of peanuts in Alabama. Each year since that time the extension entomologist has watched closely the development of this pest. Farmers and the county agents have helped by reporting to the State extension office the first insect found.

In 1944, worms were reported early in June from Houston and Geneva Counties. These counties are located just north of the Florida State line. It was evident that the insect would cause serious damage if weather conditions were normal. This insect multiplies much more rapidly in periods of wet weather. In 1944, farmers in Alabama applied about 3 million

pounds of cryolite. It was estimated that the control program saved 5 million dollars worth of peanuts in 1944.

The velvetbean caterpillar caused very little damage in 1945. In 1946 it was a different story. Worms were found in the peanut fields early in July. This was reported by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine to the producers of cryolite and they took steps to locate supplies of cryolite at certain distribution centers within the area. Rains continued, and the number of worms increased rapidly. Every effort was made to get additional supplies of cryolite moved into the area. Farmers in 14 Alabama counties had approximately 400,000 acres planted in peanuts. It takes a lot of cryolite to dust such an acreage when applied at the rate of 20 pounds per acre. Because of a serious shortage of freight cars and labor, cryolite could not be moved from the factory fast enough to supply the needs. The Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. D. A., had 50 tons of cryolite stored in warehouses in the area for combating the white-fringed beetle. The extension entomologist, with the help of the State Department of Agriculture, arranged to borrow this supply of cryolite. It was distributed by the county agents to farmers who needed the material most. This was not enough to go far. Next we called on one of the large manufacturers of cryolite in Philadelphia, Pa. They chartered a plane and started flying cryolite to Dothan, Ala. Ten plane loads, 100,000 pounds, were brought into the area over 1 week end. Farmers started dusting early Monday morning the following week. Cars were loaded and started toward the peanut belt of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. Trucks were running day and night in an effort to get enough cryolite to stem the tide of worms. Within a period of 10 days plenty of cryolite was available. It was applied by airplanes, tractor dusters, and every other piece of equipment available.

Rains continued to fall well into September, but farmers kept on dusting peanuts until harvesting started. It is likely that growers in Alabama saved another 5 million dollars worth of peanuts through the cooperation of cryolite producers, Federal and State agencies, and farmers.

Federal crop insurance

G. F. GEISSLER, Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

■ The farmer has waged a battle with the weather ever since man planted his first crop. His weapons have not been very effective. Indians danced in circles round campfires, attempting to bring rain for their corn crops. Other farmers watched helplessly while their crops withered under the sun or disappeared under swirling flood waters. Many farm families have lost their homes and lost their savings—not because of any negligence on their part but because of natural hazards over which they had no control.

However, producers of wheat, cotton, and flax can now shift the greater part of their worry to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation of the U. S. D. A., which is offering insurance on a Nation-wide scale to these farmers. The protection offered is against loss of yield due to essentially all unavoidable production hazards such as drought, flood, winterkill, and insect damage. With a guaranteed amount of production, along with the loan and other price-supporting programs of the Department, the farmer can be assured of at least a minimum return on his wheat, cotton, and flax crops.

Amount of Protection Is Variable

The amount of insurance available to the producers of wheat and flax is optional at either 50 or 75 percent of the long-time average yield for the farm. Cotton producers have a choice of three levels of insurance which are expressed in actual pounds of cotton rather than as percentages of the average yield. These varying amounts of insurance protection enable a producer to choose the amount which he feels best meets his individual needs.

The amount of insurance protection in all cases is lower in the early stages of production and increases as additional costs are incurred and the value of the crop increases. If the yield produced is less than the amount of insurance guaranteed for the stage of production in which loss occurs, the insured farmer is indemnified. This

progressive coverage plan is designed to protect the insured farmer's investment in the crop in the early stages of production and at the same time to provide an incentive to carry it through to harvest. Even in the harvested stage, at which time the maximum amount of protection applies, it is still more profitable to produce a normal crop, as even the highest amount of insurance cannot exceed 75 percent of the normal yield.

The premium rate for most farms is based on two factors. One is the risk of producing the commodity in the area in which the farm is located. The other is the amount of insurance selected by the farmer. The premium does not include any costs of administering the program. These costs are paid by congressional appropriations.

Sold Through Conservation Committees

Though the closing date has passed for filing applications on winter wheat for the 1947 crop year, the farmer may still apply for insurance on his 1947 spring-wheat, cotton, and flax crops. Insurance for all commodities is sold to farmers through county agricultural conservation committees, and losses are adjusted by representatives of the corporation. Each commodity is insured under a different type contract. Flax is insured under a yearly contract, wheat under a 3-year contract, and cotton under a continuous contract which remains in force from year to year, subject annually to cancellation by either party.

Corn and Tobacco Next

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation is experimenting with insurance on corn and tobacco in a few representative counties. 1947 is the third year of a 3-year trial period on these commodities. The purpose of the experimental program is to determine the most practical plan, terms, and conditions of insurance on these commodities.

Crop insurance is not a get-rich-quick scheme. On the other hand, it is sound businesslike protection.

The farmer insures his buildings each year against fire, not to make a profit out of the insurance but to be protected in the event of loss. All the time he is hoping the buildings won't burn because the insurance is never worth as much as the buildings. Likewise, he should insure his crops each year, hoping that he will always produce a bumper crop but knowing he has protection in the event of failure due to causes beyond his control.

4-H at citizenship camp

A 4-H Club member from Franklin County, N. Y., Alice Tarbell, attended the Encampment of Citizenship held in New York City from July 1 to August 10. There were 140 young people from 30 States in attendance. This group, which included 8 4-H Club members, represented urban clubs and labor unions as well as rural youth. Alice says: "The young people were from all nationalities and religions. The goal our leaders are striving for is to make us better citizens and to make a better world—training people to think and to recognize all men as their equal."

The program included discussion periods and lectures by leading personalities in a number of fields. One day each week the group visited committees and various sections of the city. Among these were: settlement houses in Harlem, new housing projects, labor unions, city government, United Nations conference, Economic and Social Council, the Atomic Energy Commission, and Hyde Park. Plans are to continue the encampment for 5 years.

Teen-agers entertain themselves

Teen-agers and their parents in Newton County, Ark., are organized to promote Thursday evening recreation at the American Legion hut with parents dropping in. They sell cold drinks to help pay the rent on the building. Gatherings are chock-full of fun, with all kinds of games and dancing. Home Demonstration Agent Maxine Ratcliff helped to get the initial group together to make plans. Now the young people have officers to direct their own affairs.

New assistant director in Pennsylvania

RALPH C. BLANEY, agricultural extension agent of Centre County, Pa., for 22 years and 7 months, has been appointed assistant director of agricultural extension at the Pennsylvania State College. He assumed his new duties on October 16.

A graduate of the Pennsylvania State College in 1922, Blaney entered extension work on July 1 of that year. He served as assistant in Somerset and Delaware Counties and became Centre County agent on March 15, 1924.

During his service, Centre County has developed into a progressive dairy farming area, with milk markets established as part of the New York and Philadelphia milk sheds. An active dairy improvement program has been developed. The county was one of the leaders in Pennsylvania to develop the cooperative ownership of purebred dairy sires through bull associations. The Centre County Dairy Herd Improvement Association No. 1 has led the State several years in the average production per cow, and one year during this period topped all associations in the United States with the high average milk production per cow. During the past 2 years, artificial breeding service has been made available to all dairy herds in the county.

Within the past few years commercial canning companies started operations in Centre County; and the Extension Service has aided in acquainting farmers with better practices in growing canning peas, sweet corn, tomatoes, and lima beans.

Crop yields have increased through the introduction of improved varieties of corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, and other crops. Alfalfa was introduced and is now widely used on Centre County farms.

The Extension Service has worked closely with many Centre County organizations, such as the Grange, wool growers' association, potato growers' association, beekeepers' association, service clubs, and garden clubs. Mr. Blaney has been active in helping the Centre County Grange Encampment

and Fair Association develop its educational exhibits and has helped steer their educational program.

In 4-H Club work, Mr. Blaney coached three State championship livestock judging teams, one of which in 1932 represented Pennsylvania in the national contest at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago. Other club members competed successfully in exhibiting at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg, lamb club members especially winning six grand championships and nine reserve championships.



Ralph C. Blaney.

Active in county agents' affairs, Mr. Blaney has served two terms, 1944-45, as director for the northeastern region in the National Association of County Agricultural Agents; chairman of the public relations committee of the national organization; and several times has represented the national association in national conferences with other groups.

A member of Kiwanis Club for 22 years, Mr. Blaney was president of the Bellefonte Club for 2 years, 1935-36, and later served as lieutenant-gov-

ernor of the eighth division of the Pennsylvania district.

Active in school affairs, Mr. Blaney has been a member of the Bellefonte School Board for 6 years, serving as president the past 3 years. During this period, the school district has built and completely equipped a new high-school building. Also a member of the Centre County Board of School Directors, he is now serving as president of that board and the Centre County School Directors' Association.

Council pushes canning

The home demonstration council of Weld County, Colo., specialized this year on helping with the food situation, reports Mrs. John Bothell, president of the council. The women decided that their part was to produce all they could and preserve all the food necessary for well-balanced meals for their families for 1 year.

To help all members do this, nine food captains were appointed by the council. These food captains answered questions on preserving and storing foods. They reported at least one call each day asking for some sort of information. When they needed further facts and figures, they called on the home demonstration agent who had already supplied them with bulletins and other literature to give out. She had also trained them in the fundamentals of food preservation and storage.

The women pooled their efforts and resources to get more done. Canning parties so as to use available pressure cookers to the best advantage or to get surplus produce into cans were common occurrences.

For service to girls

Two recent reports tell of leaders of 4-H Clubs who have been honored for long and faithful service. In Massachusetts, 140 years of service to 4-H Clubs was recognized at the Massachusetts 4-H women leaders' week. Diamond clover awards went to six leaders for more than 20 years as a 4-H leader and pearl clover awards to three other women for more than 15 years of service. Clearfield County, Pa., found that their leaders who had earned awards for long service totaled 115 years of leadership.

4-H curb market does \$3,000 volume of business

■ This year-old 4-H Club roadside curb market in Shelby County, near Memphis, Tenn., did a \$3,000 volume of business during the last 12 months. Clarence Harris, 4-H Club youth who owns the market got the idea from his county agent, R. H. Brown, who has been serving the county for 28 years.

Observing the heavy traffic of workers who passed Clarence's home every day going to and from work, Mr. Brown suggested that Clarence might sell them some of the vegetables out of his club garden and fruit from the family's pear, apple, and peach trees.

A Humble Beginning

So, one day in June of last year, Clarence and his brother, Willie, dragged a crudely built table into their front yard near the highway and placed on it a few heads of cabbage, a basket of tomatoes, and three dozen ears of corn. Within a couple of hours they had sold out, and Clarence was sold on the idea of a curb market.

A week later, Clarence had sold his two calves and enough vegetables off his crude table to build a stand. By the middle of July his market was

finished, and he had made arrangements to buy fruits, vegetables, chickens, and eggs from neighboring farmers and resell them at his market. Clarence calls his market the "4-H Club Roadside Market," and he permits all 4-H'ers to sell on it who wish to do so.

In order to raise more of his own produce for market, Clarence began sharecropping 200 acres with his high-school principal this year. He put 5 acres in sweet corn, 3 acres in sweet-potatoes, 2 acres in watermelons, an acre in cabbage, an acre in tomatoes, and a fourth of an acre in lima beans, and several rows of string beans, cucumbers, beets, and carrots. Also, he planted 30 acres to cotton, 30 acres to corn, and left about 100 acres of pasture land for his brood stock of 15 calves which he bought this year. Clarence hired most of the chopping and picking of his cotton but did all of the plowing himself with a tractor.

It is Clarence's plan to go to college and learn all he can about livestock and dairying. "Thirteen miles from Memphis is a good location for a dairy," he says. This, of course, will be in addition to his profitable curb market.

Pictured left to right are: W. H.

Williamson, assistant State supervisor of extension work; Eddie Harris, Clarence's father; Willie, the owner's brother and chief assistant; R. H. Brown, county agent; Clarence, kneeling; and John W. Mitchell, Extension Service field agent.

4-H Club camp "calf"

4-H livestock products donated by friends of club work and feeding and fattening at the hands of club members will eventually help pay for the development of Rock Springs Ranch, the new Kansas State 4-H Club Camp, located 17 miles southwest of Junction City.

When "Timmy," the roan shorthorn calf that was donated by T. T. Rior-dan, Solomon, Kans., banker, and fed by the Willing Willowdalers 4-H Club, Dickinson County, brought 52½ cents a pound at the annual auction sale at the Wichita Fat Stock Show in October and garnered more than \$500 net for the State camp fund, he started something. The total received for the 1,070-pound calf was \$561.75.

An Angus calf, given by C. E. Reed, prominent breeder of Wichita, with the understanding that it was to be fed and returned to the Wichita show for auction in 1947, will be taken to the home of Margaret Beavers, member of the Humboldt 4-H Club, Geary County, where she will "feed it out." The feed will be furnished by the Geary County 4-H Council.

No. 2 "Camp Calf of 1947" came from the purebred shorthorn herd of R. C. Hotchkiss, Leon, and was accepted by Billy Williams, 19-year-old member of the Neosho Valley 4-H Club, Morris County, to be his special charge. Again the feed will be provided by the county council.

The third 1947 camp calf, a Hereford, came as a donation from V. L. Bauerfeld, Wichita businessman, and his daughter, Beverly Bauerfeld, also in business in Wichita. This Hereford calf called "RC" will be fed by a Sedgwick County club. Mr. Bauerfeld said that he wanted the calf near so he could visit it and note its progress.

The Jewell County 4-H Council has voted to feed out a fourth calf for sale in Wichita next year, Edwin Hedstrom, county agricultural agent, has announced.



Home Demonstration Council meeting

■ "Farm people, always the best neighbors in the world, now consider the whole world as part of their neighborhood."

That statement by Mrs. J. Wayne Reiner, of Morgantown, W. Va., president of the council, expressed the mood of the 450 rural homemakers from 27 States attending the annual meeting of the National Council of Home Demonstration Clubs held in Omaha, October 12 to 14.

States represented included Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

In her keynote speech on the conference theme: "Homemakers' Horizons," Mrs. Reiner declared that the farm homemaker's interests and activities have long since expanded beyond the four walls of the home.

The group supported this contention by endorsing, then affiliating with the Women's Action Committee for Lasting Peace.

Study Rural-Urban Relationships

They also resolved to continue their study of rural-urban relationships as one means of helping to stabilize the Nation's economy and to sponsor community activities which would help build better citizenship.

Other resolutions reemphasized family unity, better understanding of youth, and the promotion of safer homes, farms, and communities as objectives of home demonstration clubs, and called for the observance of National Home Demonstration Week again in 1947.

Mrs. J. A. Randle, of Starkville, Miss., was elected director for the Southern States, replacing Mrs. W. C. Pou, of Elmwood, N. C. The southern director was the only national officer voted on this year.

Final action taken by the group was

voting to affiliate with the American Country Life Association, and deciding to hold the 1947 annual meeting at Jackson's Mill, W. Va., the first week in October.

Reports of the year's most outstanding achievement of State home demonstration groups high lighted the business session. Activities reported ranged from food donations to hospitals at home and for famine abroad to the collection of an international scholarship fund.

Arkansas reported the donation of 12,500 quarts, or a year's supply, of home-canned food to the Arkansas Children's Home and Hospital in Little Rock. Nebraska began the collection of a \$600 scholarship for a Chinese student studying home economics at the University of Nebraska, and Michigan added \$500 to its student loan fund for rural girls.

Promote International Understanding

Wyoming reported participation in a State-wide contest to see which group could develop the most effective project furthering international understanding. Massachusetts also stressed international projects, including donations of food, money, or materials to war-torn countries, correspondence with "pen friends" in other countries, and rocking-chair tours of foreign lands. North Carolina reported the contribution by home demonstration club members of more than 49,000 cans of food, and \$17,562 to UNRRA.

Oklahoma's home demonstration groups helped provide or improve playgrounds, parks, or community buildings for 875 communities; Illinois rural homemakers helped 4-H Club members raise money for a memorial camp to be available the year round for use by various groups; Colorado home demonstration club members provided shoppers' lounges in eight towns for the use of rural women and furnished emergency first-aid kits for rural schools.

Virginia clubs helped conduct a housing survey, encouraged rural

families to obtain hospital insurance, and published a cook book. The cook book, *Recipes from Old Virginia*, contains culinary secrets handed down by word of mouth for generations, according to the report. Removing fire and accident hazards from farms and rural homes was a major activity in Ohio.

Other State delegates reported emphasis on various types of health-improvement programs, wise use of time and money, more responsible citizenship, study of the United Nations Charter, and increased food production and conservation for famine relief.

Speakers at the council meeting urged continued study leading to constructive action regarding such problems as education, health, and juvenile delinquency. Speakers included Eunice Heywood, Division of Field Coordination, Federal Extension Service; R. K. Bliss, extension director, Iowa State College, Ames; Georgetown Khouri, Lebanon, Syria, student at the University of Nebraska; Dean W. W. Burr, College of Agriculture, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Mrs. Leonary Killey, Monmouth, Ill.; Mrs. V. B. Ballard, Attica, Kans., and Mrs. Reiner.

Farm and town clubs get together

Home demonstration clubs in Craighead County, Ark., are promoting better rural-urban relationships. One evening a month the club in a different community is hostess to the Kiwanis Club from Jonesboro. The men travel to the community where the home demonstration club women serve their dinner.

The Philadelphia Home Demonstration Club, for one, served the May meal at the school lunch kitchen. The women's husbands were guests, too.

Home Demonstration Agent Mary Britzman sees the value of these meetings in two ways. They bring about a more friendly feeling between the two groups, and the home demonstration clubs are enabled to earn some money. The Philadelphia Club cleared more than \$100 from the dinner. They will use it to help build a parsonage near their church.

Do you know

TOM M. MARKS, veteran agent of 38 years of service and one of the first farm editors in the Southwest, who tells some of his reminiscences and philosophy to Jack Ludrick, associate extension editor, Oklahoma?

■ Tom M. Marks, of Hollis, Okla., has retired after 38 years of official extension work. This is a long time—38 years—but it was merely a start for Uncle Tom. For this very versatile agriculturist had already made his mark in the agricultural world long before 1908.

Now 81, Uncle Tom is still studying and planning and writing. Every week his famous Plow Points are published throughout Oklahoma as one of the finest features ever written on farming. Every week farmers receive the benefits of this pioneer's long experience and wisdom.

Uncle Tom is a pioneer editor of the Southwest. For years he was editor of farm papers in Oklahoma and Texas. He spent 2 years as a public entertainer, 2 years as a construction engineer, and in 1904 he began publication of the Jacksboro News in Jack County, Tex. Starting to work as a special agricultural agent in Jack County on February 1, 1908, he continued there until 1917 when he was transferred to Ellis County, Okla., and in 1923 became county agent in Harmon County, Okla.

Becomes a Farm Editor

While editor and publisher of the Jacksboro News, his plan was to give local news and happenings just as any other country newspaper. But instead of political editorials, the writings were almost exclusively on farm subjects. Thus, he became one of the first real "farm editors" of the Nation.

One day on returning to the office, his printer told Uncle Tom that a man was there to see him on some kind of Government work. The man was W. D. Bentley, of the United States Department of Agriculture.

"He was with some kind of Government set-up called Cooperative Demonstration Work, with headquarters in Washington," Uncle Tom said. Mr. Bentley represented Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, originator of the plan to fight the Mexican boll weevil which at that

time was causing panics in the Cotton Belt. Dr. Knapp's idea was to "grow cotton in spite of the weevil." His plan was to employ local men who were well grounded in the principles of farming, who would visit certain farmers in various parts of his territory once a month and get the farmers to try small plots of ground with seed, methods of culture, and other recommendations of the special agent.

Uncle Tom persuaded the Jack County commissioners to allow him to use the county farm as a demonstration farm.

Uncle Tom and Mr. Bentley became fast friends and traveled the early Oklahoma and Texas country together. Mr. Bentley later became the first extension service director in Oklahoma.

Introducing New Ideas

"I was always an interested listener when W. D. Bentley talked," Uncle Tom said. "I heard him give instructions and suggestions on many phases of farm activity. The early instructions consisted mainly in early and thorough plowing followed by harrowing and the use of the harrow even after the crop was planted and up. Early breaking was new to most farms.

"It was in the fall of 1907 that we had a chance to see the results of these recommendations. Two acres of cotton were planted with a good variety of cotton known as Mebane's Triumph and the crop was worked according to instructions. This was the first time most of the men had ever heard of a variety of cotton. Cotton was cotton. These 2 acres were carefully picked and weighed in comparison with 2 acres handled in the ordinary way and with ordinary seed. The result was the demonstration cotton made nearly double the yield of the other, making a little more than

a bale and a half to the acre. This result woke up two of the commissioners besides a good many farmers. It woke me up, too."

In 1906, Uncle Tom and several others decided to hold a corn show after bushels of seed had been distributed to farmers of the county. It failed miserably.

Feeling blue over the failure, Uncle Tom told Mr. Bentley: "You can't teach an old dog new tricks. Next year we will try the young dogs. We are going to have a corn show for boys."

Corn donations were solicited and seed corn distributed to farm boys in the county. Every time Uncle Tom passed a schoolhouse he stopped and made a talk to the boys and left corn with them when they joined the club. The big day came in the fall of 1908. Instead of only a few at the corn show there were between a thousand and two thousand people present. Ninety-one boys brought in corn; 30 exhibits were placed, and 170 other exhibits set up and viewed.

"After I got into extension work and began to apply the demonstration methods of Dr. Knapp I saw and experienced many examples of how this idea worked for good. In one community I suggested to one man that he paint his house. He did. Not very long after, nearly every house in the community was painted. I told him his fences and lots did not match his house; and he rebuilt, straightened up, and realigned everything. Others did the same. He built a poultry-proof garden; others followed. He made improvements in the home; others did the same.

Others Will Follow

"Uncle Tom was constantly trying to get people to adopt improved practices. He realized, like Dr. Knapp, that he needed a leader to carry out a specific practice, and others would follow. In explaining this theory to his farmers and their wives, Uncle Tom always told the following story:

"I went into a furniture store one day when the merchant, a very good friend of mine, was about to make a sale. I went up to the customer and roughly put my hand on his shoulder and told him I could not allow him to



Tom Marks at his trusty typewriter, pounding out his well-known column, *Plow Points*, published throughout Oklahoma.

buy that. The merchant friend pretended to be very indignant at me for interfering with the trade. The customer said: 'What is it to you? It's my money.' I came back with: 'I can't afford it. It's like this. As soon as your wife gets this thing home she will invite Walter's wife down to dinner. In a week's time Walter's wife will have one, and a better one. Then she will invite my wife to dinner, and then my wife will buy one, and a better one than Walter's. Then this thing that now costs \$18 will cost me at least \$25. I can't afford it.'

"Of course I was joking," Uncle Tom said, "but it turned out just as I predicted."

Uncle Tom always knew where 4-H Club members lived in Harmon County. He gave new club members zinnia seed, with specific instructions to plant them in the front yard. As he drove the county lines the zinnias told him where 4-H Club members lived.

Uncle Tom was one of the pioneers of terracing. In 1908 he laid off his first terrace. It was run by an A level made of two boards 12 feet long, with a crosspile and a plumb bob swinging from the top. In early days quite a number did not build terraces at all but listed the land parallel with contour lines run with the level in-

strument, which is nearly as good on some lands as the terrace.

"About the second report I made to Washington on terracing I received a letter. It stated that terracing was a good thing and it would be well to continue it. But at the same time there was no appropriation for such work, and it would be better for me not to dwell too much in my reports about it as it might cause trouble in getting appropriations through." Today, terracing is considered one of the "major" activities of the county agent of the Southwest.

From 1935 to May 1946, date of his retirement, Uncle Tom was a county agent at large. His work was to visit agents and make helpful suggestions, read reports, and write his weekly "Plow Points" and other agricultural writings.

Uncle Tom, now 81, has some very definite beliefs. After nearly a half century working with farmers he says: "I think Dr. Seaman A. Knapp was the greatest man America ever produced. That he has done more for humanity than any man of modern times. He was a great warrior but fought ignorance and poverty instead of men, and won battles. He was a great statesman in that he caused more humanitarian laws to be enacted than any other man. He was among

the great writers, for his writing moved men to do and act for the betterment of the race. He was a great revolutionist, but the revolution he led was not one of bloodshed and contention but one for peace and happiness. He was a great teacher and taught men how to live and improve their conditions. He founded a new kind of school which taught how to do by doing. His idea of Christianity was to be like Christ. He went about doing good without show, without pomp, without ostentation. He said for a man to be a real county agent he must have the missionary spirit; and I have believed that I had it, and that I have been a humble disciple of this great and good man.

"To have the good will and friendship of the boys and girls who were in club work, these friendships lasting on into mature manhood and womanhood, has been my greatest pleasure. And the high regard and kindly feeling toward me expressed by the men whom I have helped to gain homes or to make successful have been my greatest satisfaction."

Uncle Tom believes Christ was the first special or demonstration agent. "He did not hold a meeting or institute and explain that He could cure the sick," Uncle Tom says. "He said: 'Take up thy bed and walk.'"

■ The 33 members of the Black Springs 4-H Club, Montgomery County, Ark., met to consider how they could spend the extra money in their treasury so that it would mean something to every member.

These are the things they decided upon: (1) To have the piano at school tuned; (2) to purchase a set of first-aid equipment to be used at school; (3) to subscribe to a nationally known magazine all members would be interested in; (4) to buy a volley ball; (5) to purchase two magnolia trees to be planted as a memorial to two boys from the community who lost their lives in World War II; (6) to take the entire club on a tour. Many had never been to the county seat. The group visited the newspaper office to learn how the paper is printed, and also visited the offices of the county extension agents, county school superintendent, and county clerk.

An Agent in Britain

SILVER WHITSETT, County Agent, Guadalupe County, Tex.

■ The Extension Service in England, Wales, Scotland, and North Ireland is known as the Advisory Service. It is comparable to our Extension Service in many ways but is organized and supported, in most cases, along different lines from our work. The work in North Ireland is somewhat different from that in England and Wales and also Scotland.

Up until October 1, 1946, the Advisory Service in England and Wales was set up more or less in individual units in universities and colleges having agricultural departments and carrying on agricultural research work. Each university or college has its own organization which serves the area surrounding the research center. The grants of aid are made by the Government to the universities or colleges and are usually made on a per capita basis which often makes possible large, well-staffed forces in an industrial area with minimum agricultural work and leaves some of the more thinly populated farm areas with staffs too small to adequately handle the needed agricultural work and problems.

Service Reorganized in 1946

In a reorganization designed to improve and redistribute the Advisory Service, the Minister of Agriculture announced that the Government is setting up a National Advisory Service for England and Wales. This organization will be coordinated and directed from headquarters. Only the department of agricultural economics will continue to be provided by staffs attached to the universities and colleges.

Aside from this, the National Service will include all those concerned with advisory work at the provincial centers and in the counties. This, they contend, will enable the ministry to give general directions and guidance on policy and on technical developments, to stimulate activity in any direction, or in any district where this seems desirable, to obtain greater uniformity in the work throughout the country, and to insure a proper

coordination of the specialists and general advisory activities.

The staff of the Service will cooperate closely with the agricultural education staffs of the county council, especially in regard to special activities such as farm institutes and continuation classes. A small staff of senior officers will head this work at the headquarters in London.

England and Wales will be divided into eight provinces with centers in Newcastle; Leeds; Wellington, Salop; Nottingham; Cambridge; Reading (subcenter near Wye, Kent); Bristol (subcenter near Seale-Hayne College); and Aberystwyth (subcenters at Bangor and Cardiff).

Provincial Officer Coordinates Work

In order to obtain continued contact between academic centers and specialists' advisory staffs, the centers and subcenters will be located as close as possible to the universities and departments of agriculture or associated with advisory work in the past or near agricultural colleges.

A provincial advisory officer, comparable to our State directors, will be appointed to be responsible for the organization of the Service in each province, including the specialists' advisory work conducted from province centers and subcenters and the county advisory work. The principal officers in each province will be a provincial advisory officer, a deputy provincial advisory officer, and specialist advisory officers in entomology, plant pathology, soil chemistry, bacteriology, nutrition chemistry, animal husbandry, crop husbandry, grasslands management, horticulture, poultry husbandry, farm machinery, and farm buildings.

The foregoing, together with scientific assistants, analytical staff, and others as needed, will make up the staffs. In some provinces there will also be specialists in dairy husbandry, glasshouse construction, and fruit growing. Veterinarian investigation officers will not form part of the NAAS but will be staffed to the Ministry's Animal Health Division. They will

have and maintain close contact with the specialists advising at NAAS province centers.

The basic county organization will include a county advisory officer; district advisory officers; county advisers in milk production, horticulture, poultry, and farm machinery. The appointments of county advisers in particular subjects will depend on the circumstances and needs of each county. In some cases, it will be necessary to appoint other county advisers such as animal husbandry officers as near as possible. District officers will be appointed for every 1,000 farmers.

All Services Integrated

The Poultry Advisory Service, already established, which covers other small livestock as well as poultry, will be integrated with the new service.

A program of experimental work is being drawn up under the guidance of the agricultural council of England and Wales, and they intend to set up a series of experimental farms and horticultural stations throughout the country.

Prewar members of the province or county advisory service will, in most instances, have the right of transfer to the new service. Transferred per-

Agent Whitsett was chosen to represent all county agents on a tour of England with a group of educational leaders. In appreciation of the work done in growing food for war supply, the British Government invited these leaders to be its guests. To bring something back which would be interesting and useful to his fellow county agents, he began seriously to study the advisory system in Britain comparable to the Extension Service. The British agricultural attaché helped him lay his plans as they talked things over on the Queen Mary going over. In London, officials of the Ministry of Agriculture outlined the British plans for him. Faculty members at Cambridge and Reading University explained the tie-up with the universities. The four senior members in the Scottish Service, as well as numerous other local workers and regional leaders, talked with Mr. Whitsett and helped him work out this article.

sonnel will be graded according to their qualifications and experience.

Six main salary grades have been set up depending on experience, qualifications, and location in London or in the country. A slightly higher entrance salary is given to students with first- and second-class honor degrees and basic science.

In Scotland the agricultural work is handled under the Department of Agriculture of Scotland. This was formerly known as The Board. In Scotland the facilities for scientific agricultural instruction and research work exists at three centers: Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and Glasgow. Each of these centers has agricultural colleges, and each college has a farm attached for the purpose of demonstrations and experimental work as well as teaching forces necessary for agricultural degrees.

The Function of Agricultural Colleges

The constitution of each college has a twofold object: First, the maintenance of central teaching institutions; and second, extension teaching in the counties of the college area. The additional work of the college is provided in the two main branches—work within the central institution and county extension work. Each college acts as an advisory center for its area.

Applications for advice are received by the college either directly from the agriculturist or through the county organizer or adviser appointed for each county within the college area. His duties are to provide agricultural instruction by systematic or other short courses of lecture, to give practical advice and assistance to farmers, to conduct experimental and demonstration work on selected plots of land.

Subject-Matter Specialists

Associated with the advisers are one or more instructors on practical work such as cheese making, butter making, horticulture, poultry keeping, and beekeeping.

Government grants for capital and maintenance expenses are made through the colleges. From October 1, 1946, it is proposed that 100 percent of the cost of the specialists advisory service and the county extension work

will be made from central State funds. It is anticipated that under this system there will be a considerable extension of educational services, both to students and farmers.

In North Ireland the agricultural teaching, agricultural research, and agricultural advisory or extension service are all three working in very close cooperation on the problems affecting farmers of North Ireland. The research and advisory services are working on problems directly identified with current farm problems, and they are carrying the information back to the farmers.

The organization in North Ireland unquestionably is patterned more closely along the lines of our Extension Service, with that of Scotland next in line.

Undoubtedly, the reorganization changes which are being made will put both research and advisory services in closer and more general contact with farmers and farm problems.

Doing something about the weather

Mississippi and Texas report some useful weather cooperation

■ Texas agents have developed a plan of cooperation with the Weather Bureau and the Crop Reporting Division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics which is mutually beneficial.

Each week all county agents make a report to the Crop Reporting Division in Austin, telling of the farming and ranching activities which might be affected by the weather. From this the Crop Reporting Division prepared a guide for the Weather Bureau to use in reporting weather conditions.

In this way farmers get more specific help on the weather and what it means to them in terms of current agricultural activities. Some radio farm directors for commercial radio stations are including these specially prepared reports as a part of their daily farm broadcast. When the Weather Bureau has a station in the towns where the radio stations are located, the reports come directly from the weather stations by remote

Guide dogs and 4-H Clubs

California 4-H Club members are now rearing 60 percent of the guide dogs from the kennels of Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc., a charitable organization supplying dogs free for blind people.

Director B. H. Crocheron, of the Agricultural Extension Service, announced the guide-dog project as a citizenship endeavor of senior 4-H Club members 10 months ago. Since that time 33 of the 4-H Club members have taken German shepherd pups to rear. Some of these are now being returned to the kennels at Los Gatos for training.

The pups are sent to 4-H Club members at 3 months of age. Country conditions are favorable to the development of the pups for the purpose they are intended. At 9 months of age they are returned to the kennels for training. Veterans are given preference in the placing of the dogs.

In other towns special telegrams are sent from the Weather Bureau to radio stations. These special reports are also being used by county agents as a part of their regular broadcasting, which enables them to give farmers more specific suggestions to prepare for changes in the weather which affect their agricultural enterprises.

Mississippi has also worked out a plan which they find valuable. Eleven county agents in the various agricultural regions of the State receive by telegram the weather report from the Jackson Air Base Weather Bureau 5 days a week. The agents watch out for the weather wire and transmit the information to nearby radio stations promptly, together with added information about agriculture and its relation to the current weather in that particular region.

These are but two examples of a cooperative service being developed in a number of States.

We Study Our Job

Extension studies handicrafts of rural America

The creative expression and artistic craftsmanship of country people throughout the United States are revealed in a report of a Nation-wide survey of rural arts and crafts. The study is based on an estimate of all handicraft and other rural art work done by country people in 2,969 counties in 47 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico in 1938. Information for the study was furnished by home demonstration agents and by agricultural agents in counties not having home agents.

This rough national inventory was made to give a broad picture of the status of rural art work, to stimulate further interest in this field and to furnish a basis for a national program.

In addition to the study by Lucinda Crile, of the Extension Service, this publication includes a section by Allen Eaton, of the Russell Sage Foundation, on the place of the arts and crafts in rural life. Attractive photographs are used throughout the publication. Printing of this publication was held up during the war.

The study brings out that more than a million and a half people in 81 percent of the counties surveyed were making handicrafts in 1938. The proportion of women, girls, men, and boys was about 4-2-1-1 respectively. These country people made things chiefly out of wood, cotton, wool, leather, metal, and clay. Many of their designs were original or were influenced by local tradition. Some of the people got ideas on making their handicrafts from books and magazines; others, from instructors. Two-thirds of the counties reported holding handicraft exhibitions in 1938 in which country people participated.

Needlework and furniture making and remodeling were the most popular pursuits and brought in the highest cash income in 1938. Also high up in the production and cash income brackets were basketwork, carved or

whittled work, and hand-made mattresses. Other home-made products reported were: Paintings and drawings, leather work, scrap books, decorated fabrics, photographs, woven goods, metal work, beaded work, dye and native dyed material, and food products in unique hand-made containers.

The survey brings out that the country people were more interested in making things for their own use, or as leisure-time activities, than they were to make products to sell. The estimated value of products reported sold in 1938 was about \$1,950,000; the estimated value of handicrafts made for maker's own use was over \$4,370,000.

Slightly less than one-half of the total counties reported sales of handicraft products in 1938. More counties sold through unorganized than organized markets. However, a little more than one-half of the total sales reported was credited to organized markets.

The greatest number of people and the highest percentage of counties reported selling products directly from the "maker's own door." This type of market also accounted for the highest total sales. Second place was held by "house-to-house canvass" for percentage of counties selling, by "Christmas markets" for total number of individuals selling, and by "roadside markets" for the highest amount of sales reported.

The survey shows that most of the handicraft products were sold in the vicinity in which they were produced. Factors considered in establishing prices of handicraft products were: Materials, labor, craftsmanship, design, and information from handicraft organizations.

The provision of bulletins, trained instructors, designs and models, and the establishment of markets were suggested most frequently as ways in which the United States Department of Agriculture could give further assistance to rural art work in the field. The greatest needs in promoting

rural art activities, according to the extension agents, are improved craftsmanship, additional instructors, commercial markets, and better designs.

Rural arts were defined, at the time of the exhibition in the Department of Agriculture in 1937, to include not only the making of small and portable objects usually referred to as handicrafts, but other expressions of artistic and ingenious work found in the home and on the surrounding countryside. The questionnaire used in this study provided for citing examples of such work. The types mentioned most frequently pertained to yards, grounds, gardens, farm and home buildings, home interiors, orchards and fields.

The chief benefits derived from the practice of rural arts reported in the survey are that the work provides a constructive use of leisure time; supplements income; provides conveniences for the home; makes the home more attractive and comfortable; develops art appreciation, creative expression, and craftsmanship; provides personal satisfaction through creative work; and makes it possible for some families to have articles which they could not afford to buy.

More details of this study are given in the printed publication, *Rural Handicrafts in the United States*, U. S. D. A. Misc. Publ. 610, by Allen Eaton and Lucinda Crile. For sale at 20 cents each, Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Rural Handicrafts Supplement

A multilithed supplement to the printed publication has been prepared for extension workers by Lucinda Crile. This extension service circular No. 439, entitled "Supplement to Rural Handicrafts in the United States" gives detailed data for each State separately—information not given in the printed publication. The supplement also includes the national totals, a narrative summary of the interpretation of the data, and the methods used in making the handicrafts study.

A market outlet for 4-H animals

■ The first annual show of the Republican Valley 4-H Club Association at McCook, Nebr., October 17-19, was the result of cooperative effort on the part of 14 county agents in southwest Nebraska and northwest Kansas. The show was a success, with 229 beef animals exhibited from eight Nebraska counties and four Kansas counties.

The show was designed to take care of 4-H beef animals for this area which has been rather isolated from any major show. Although there will still be 4-H Club members in this area who exhibit at Denver, Colo., and Lincoln and Omaha, Nebr., a greater majority of the 4-H beef animal projects must be shown and sold near the home farm. County fairs have been handicapped for want of good sale outlets. The major buyers and packers could not attend these small scattered events.

Last spring, during one of the district conferences held at McCook, Nebr., agents from southwestern

Nebraska decided to do something about this problem. They agreed that McCook would be the logical center for such an effort. Contacts were made with the McCook Chamber of Commerce and Junior Chamber of Commerce. These latter organizations responded with an invitation to the Nebraska county agents and their constituents to meet with the Civic Club officers to see what could be done. Several other meetings were held, and it became evident that northwestern Kansas might want the same privileges; so the Nebraska agents invited participation from their Kansas neighbors.

With some variation as to the organizations sponsoring 4-H Club work in the respective counties, the plan developed that each county organization should name one person to represent that county to be an incorporator for the association. These incorporators and officials representing the McCook Chamber of Commerce held a number of meetings at

McCook during the summer of 1946. A full-fledged incorporated association was the result. Paul Wilson, Hayes County farmer and 4-H Club leader, became the first president. Clyde C. Noyes, McCook County agent, became the first secretary. Rules and regulations were drawn up, and the show management was selected.

The McCook business folks were enthusiastic hosts. The chamber of commerce there delivered a \$1,200 check to Paul Wilson to cover premium costs. The city of McCook awarded the exhibitor of the Grand Champion beef animal a special prize of \$100. Several merchandise prizes were offered for judging and showmanship events. The Junior Chamber of Commerce of McCook awarded a Holstein bred heifer to one outstanding 4-H Club member from each of 10 counties. The selection of the respective winners of the dairy heifers was delegated to the county 4-H Club Committee in each county. Sleeping quarters and two breakfasts were furnished to the exhibitors. A full recreation and entertainment program was provided on two evenings during the show.

The top animals exhibited were of a quality comparable to those exhibited in interstate shows at Omaha and Denver.

Best of all, the market provided for the disposal of the 229 entries proved to be a success. The two regular livestock auction companies of McCook cooperated with each other and the show management. Auctioneers representing the McCook Livestock Auction Co. and the Farmers Livestock Auction Co. both participated in the sale, giving their services without charge. The sale, as well as the show, was conducted on the Red Willow County fairgrounds.

Town and country church

Five district town and country church conferences were held in Illinois during October, reports D. E. Lindstrom, rural sociologist for the Illinois Extension Service. Among the problems discussed were the community approach to soil conservation and the social and nutritional problems involved, with a panel discussion on the action plan for the community.

Mayor Leroy Kleven, of McCook, Nebr., presents a special cash premium of \$100 to Thyra Mae Hill, of Chase County, who exhibited the Grand Champion baby beef. Left to right in the picture are Phil Ljungdahl, of Kansas State College, judge; Mr. Hill, Thyra Mae's father; K. C. Fouts, Nebraska Agricultural College, judge; Thyra Mae Hill; and Mayor Kleven.



Among Ourselves

■ HAROLD E. GULVIN, extension specialist in agricultural engineering in Rhode Island, recently received a check for \$3,964.75 for writing a paper on Arc Welding on the Farm. He was number one winner in a Nationwide contest.

■ MARY E. THOMAS and MRS. ESTELLE T. SMITH of North Carolina were especially honored at the annual convention of the North Carolina Home Economics Association on October 27, 1946, upon the occasion of their retirement from active service. An appreciation prepared by Ellen Brewer, head of the Home Economics Department of Meredith College, of Raleigh, N. C., said in part:

"Miss Thomas was the first specialist of our State Extension Service, coming to North Carolina in 1926, to work in the field of foods and nutrition. Her excellence in her profession is borne out by a story Mrs. McKimmon likes to relate. Going to Peabody in search of a person for this position, Mrs. McKimmon says she was told by one of the authorities: 'I have two Ph. D's, and I have Mary Thomas with a Master's, but I wouldn't exchange Mary for both of the others.' Those of us who have seen the fine work she has done can well understand such an endorsement.

"Miss Thomas has guided the nutrition of our people through troublous times. During the depression when economic conditions were endangering dietary standards she worked valiantly, along with the Department of Health, in teaching about the prevention of pellagra and other dietary diseases. And during the recent war, with shortages on every hand, she has been in the front ranks of those who have upheld safe dietary standards.

"It is not difficult to tell why Mrs. Estelle T. Smith is listed in The American Woman's Who's Who when one considers the place she has made for herself in our State. Having rendered important service in the North Carolina Federation of Women's

Clubs, the Raleigh Woman's Club, the State College Woman's Club, the North Carolina Art Society, and the North Carolina Garden Club, in several of which she has held office, she would indeed be qualified. But it is because of the unselfish way in which she has poured her interest and gifts along all these lines—education, politics, charity, art, and literature—into the promotion of better houses in our State that we are grateful for her today.

"Starting her career as home demonstration agent in Wayne County in 1915, she became in 1918 a district agent, first, of all eastern North Carolina, and then later, as the work grew, of the southeastern district. In 1941 she became assistant State home demonstration agent, which position she holds now.

"Her rare ability as an organizer has been particularly valuable in directing the Farm Women's Short Course since 1927. She has done much to promote leadership and has trained club leaders in parliamentary procedure so that their meetings are conducted with dignity and efficiency. It was in her mind and heart that the Jane S. McKimmon Loan Fund had its inception."

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EXTENSION SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

■ IDA A. LAMBACH, home demonstration agent in Fulton County, Ark., since January 1, 1930, died at Salem, Ark., Thursday night, October 31, 1946, after a long illness. Funeral services were held in Kansas. Miss Lambach was a conscientious worker, devoted to the interests of farm people, who in turn were devoted to her. In a county of 1,761 farm families, she worked with 18 home demonstration groups of farm women and 10 4-H Clubs. She was a native of Atwood, Kans., and a graduate of Kansas State Teachers College, Hays, Kans.

■ MRS. CHARLOTTE PIERPONT BROOKS, Vermont home management specialist, brought to a close 25 years in this work when she retired on October 1. She plans to remain at her home at St. Albans Bay.

Mrs. Brooks began her work with the Extension Service in 1917 when she was known as Charlotte Pierpont. She was the first assistant State 4-H Club leader. About the time of her appointment in that capacity the United States entered World War I, and the Extension Service set up a program of emergency home demonstration agents. Miss Pierpont was put in charge of the program, becoming the first State home demonstration leader in Vermont.

Following the war years, the home demonstration program took on many of its present-day aspects, although the work of organizing the counties was still in the pioneering stages. Miss Pierpont worked ardently at building up the home demonstration program until, in 1922, she became Mrs. H. Kibbe Brooks and left the Extension Service for a time.

Problems arising out of the flood of 1927 brought her back to extension work. She was called in to help homemakers with their efforts in reconstructing their homes and home grounds after the ravages of the flood. Mrs. Brooks became the home management specialist for the Extension Service and remained in that position until her retirement.